



AUSTIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 10, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Appeal of Form 486 Adjusted Start Date – FY 2011

AUSTIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Contact Information:

Name: Peggy L. Derr
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Billed Entity Number: 125620
Form 471 Application Number: 812299
CC Docket No. 02-6
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am writing to respectfully request the FCC to adjust the Form 486 Service Start Date to July 1, 2011 which would have the effect of reinstating our original E-rate funding commitment.

The E-rate funding request for FY 2011 was funded on January 4, 2012. We inadvertently missed the Form 486 filing deadline because the application was funded so late and we were not accustomed to having to file the Form 486 while we were in the process of completing our FY 2012 applications (typically the 486 is filed in the summer of the funding year as we receive our FCDL in the May – August timeframe).

USAC sent us a Form 486 Urgent Reminder Letter on May 30, 2012 with a new deadline to file the Form 486 as of June 19, 2012. We, indeed, went only and filed the Form 486 on June 12, 2012 and have attached to this appeal a print-out of that form to prove the date. However, we did not realize the electronic signature was not completed (and thus the form was not officially considered as 'filed') until we were notified by our service provider, Zito Media, that the Form 486 was still not showing up as being filed.

We then immediately certified the Form 486, but because it was certified after June 19, 2012, USAC adjusted our Form 486 service start date from July 1, 2011 to March 28, 2012. The result of this adjustment was that our funding commitment also was adjusted from \$4788 to \$1560.

This funding request is the first year of our new contract to provide fiber to our school district. We would not have entered into this contract had we not thought we would have E-rate to help pay for the service as we are a 70% discount school district.

We respectfully request that the funding commitment in the amount \$4,788 be reinstated. This may not be a large amount of money to some institutions, but it is extremely important to our District. We are the smallest School district in the state of Pennsylvania and have only one school building. We are located in a very rural area and we rely on the commitment that USAC originally set for our grant. This amount was budgeted for our 2011-12 school year and would create a hardship for our district to come up with the difference in the loss of \$3,192.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Respectfully submitted,

AUSTIN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy L. Derr". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Peggy L. Derr, Business Manager